setting up of Exclusive Special Courts in every district to deal with cases of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It was also requested that the Central Government may sanction this amount as a 100% Central Assistance.

(b) and (c) As the implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Central Assistance is released to the States on Matching basis of 50:50. The Central Assistance is released as and when the Government of Andhra Pradesh provides the required provision in their budget for this purpose.

Central Assistance for Andhra Pradesh Welfare Bodies

2839. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government for assistance of Rs. 13.12 crores towards share capital contribution for the Backward Class Co-operative Societies Federations and Andhra Pradesh Washermen Co-operative Societies Federations;

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be granted; and

(c) by when it would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No Sir, the Government has not received any such proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Increase in allocation for SCs, STs and Minorities

2840. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation for development of SCs, STs and Minorities is proposed to be doubled;

(f so, the details of present allocation . each category;

(c) whether some criteria to provide the benefits of such enhancement to the beneficiaries has been laid down; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with formalities to be undertaken by these beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The allocation of funds for development of SCs, STs and Minorities for the year 1998-99 (Budget Estimates) is higher as compared to the actual expenditure during 1997-98, as per details given below:—

	1997-98 (Expenditure)	1998-99 (Budget Estimates)
	(Rs. in crores)	
Scheduled Castes	618.47	785.93
Scheduled Tribes	466.71	576.79
Minorities	41.01	77.46

(c) and (d) Every scheme has laid down procedures and benefits accrue to the beneficiaries accordingly.

गुजरात से निराश्रित बच्चों का कल्याण

2841. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ल**: क्या सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क)गुजरात में ऐसे शहरों की संख्या क्या हैं जहां निराश्रित बच्चों के कल्याण संबंधी योजना कार्यान्वित की जा रही हैं